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ACTION: Amembassy PARIS

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RPT INFO: All NATO capitals

REVIEWED BY

DATE 1/4/88

Amembassy MOSCOW

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USSER BERLIN

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() DENY () Non-responsive info.

FOI EO or PA exemption b1,2,3,4,5

TO authority to:

OADR

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In next few days Department plans use Ambassadorial Group on Berlin as vehicle for briefing British, French and Germans on Cuban developments. Reports of these briefings may be utilized by USRO for briefing NAC Permreps. Other addressees may utilize reports for briefing host government at appropriately high level. These reports will contain sensitive information and addressees should stress caution about leaks.

At today's meeting, Thompson chairman, Hilsman, INR, reported aerial reconnaissance of 27th showed work on missile sites continuing at rapid pace with efforts being made at dispersion and camouflage. We virtually certain all personnel at sites are Soviet. One sighting of Soviet military insignia made. Further reconnaissance being made today, as UN not yet able take over surveillance function.

Drafted by: EUR:JKHolloway:mt
10/29/82

Telegraphic transmission and
classification approved by:

William R. Tyler

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Comments:

BTF - Mr. Hollenbrand

SOV:

Mr. Guthrie (in substance)

INR - Mr. Hilsman

RPM:

Mr. Pepper (in substance)

EUR - Mr. Tyler

S/S

- Mr. Weiner

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Thompson reported U Thant leaving for Cuba tomorrow with UN inspection personnel and communication equipment. US will provide SYG with detailed information on site locations in effort get early verification of dismantling. US considering suspending quarantine for duration U Thant visit as UN inspectors will be at ports to check incoming cargo. any excuse not Aim of suspension would be to deprive Cuban government of ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ station ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ If such decision made, picket ships will stay on ~~any excuse~~ during suspension.

In response to French question, Thompson noted

Thompson explained US backgrounding press that we are cautious about

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Soviet withdrawal, but in no case are we encouraging any crowing or gloating over what appears to be Soviet defeat. We believe that if Khrushchev has lost he will be less likely take a tough line on Berlin, although by same token he will also be in no position make concessions on Berlin. Therefore, we do not wish draw attention to Berlin at this moment. This particularly applicable to plebiscite proposal. Knappstein promised full Allied consultation on plebiscite.

Both Thompson and Nitze stressed US belief that we would probably be on verge full-scale nuclear war if it were established that Sovs not dismantling weapons.

Lord Hood reported UK press guidance parallels US line.

On Berlin matters, Group agreed invite LIVE OAK General Baker to Washington for consultation on Berlin planning.

Next briefing tentatively set for tomorrow.

END

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